

## **DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY**

### **Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission**

Special Shrimp Season, Zone 2 and Portion of Zone 1

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953(B) and R.S. 49:967 of the Administrative Procedure Act which allows the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission to use emergency procedures to set shrimp seasons, and R.S. 56:497 which provides that the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission shall have the authority to open or close outside waters by zone each year as it deems appropriate upon inspection of and based upon technical and biological data which indicates that marketable shrimp, in sufficient quantities, are available for harvest, and a resolution adopted by the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission on December 3, 2009 which authorizes the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries to open and close special shrimp seasons in any portion of state inside waters where such a season would not detrimentally impact developing brown shrimp populations, the Secretary hereby declares:

That all of Shrimp Management Zone 1 north of 29 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds north latitude and all of Shrimp Management Zone 2 including that portion of the State's Outside Waters south of the Inside/Outside Shrimp Line as described in R.S. 56:495 from the western shore of Freshwater Bayou at 92 degrees 18 minutes 33 seconds west longitude to the Atchafalaya River Ship Channel at Eugene Island as delineated by the River Channel Buoy Line to open at 12:00 noon April 29, 2010. These waters shall remain open to shrimping until further notice.

Shrimp Management Zone 1 includes that portion of Louisiana's inside waters from the Mississippi/Louisiana State line to the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River, however, only that portion of Zone 1 north of 29 degrees 30 minutes 00 seconds north latitude will open to shrimping. Shrimp Management Zone 2 includes that portion of Louisiana's inside waters from the eastern shore of South Pass of the Mississippi River to the western shore of Vermilion Bay and Southwest Pass at Marsh Island.

Unseasonably colder temperatures and wet winter conditions have delayed brown shrimp recruitment and growth; however, significant populations of over-wintering white shrimp are present in these waters and this special season should provide fishermen with added economic opportunity through the harvest and sale of over-wintering white shrimp.

Robert J. Barham  
Secretary